

WW II: The Allies vs. Japan



Standards:

- US.50 Explain the role of geographic and military factors on the outcomes of battles in the Pacific and European theaters of war, including the Battles of Midway, Iwo Jima, Okinawa, and D-Day.
- US.51 Identify the roles and sacrifices of individual American soldiers, as well as the unique contributions of special fighting forces such as the Tuskegee Airmen, the 442nd Regimental Combat team, the 101st Airborne, and the Navajo Code Talkers.



Now that Hitler had been defeated, the Allies had to stop the empire of Japan for WW II to end.



Japan took Manchuria from China to gain more resources for their own nation.





The Axis Powers had taken over much of the world by 1942. Germany had taken over Europe and Japan had taken over parts of Asia and areas in the Pacific. On 5/8/1945, Germany was defeated and the Allies focused their efforts on Japan.

The Struggle Against Japan

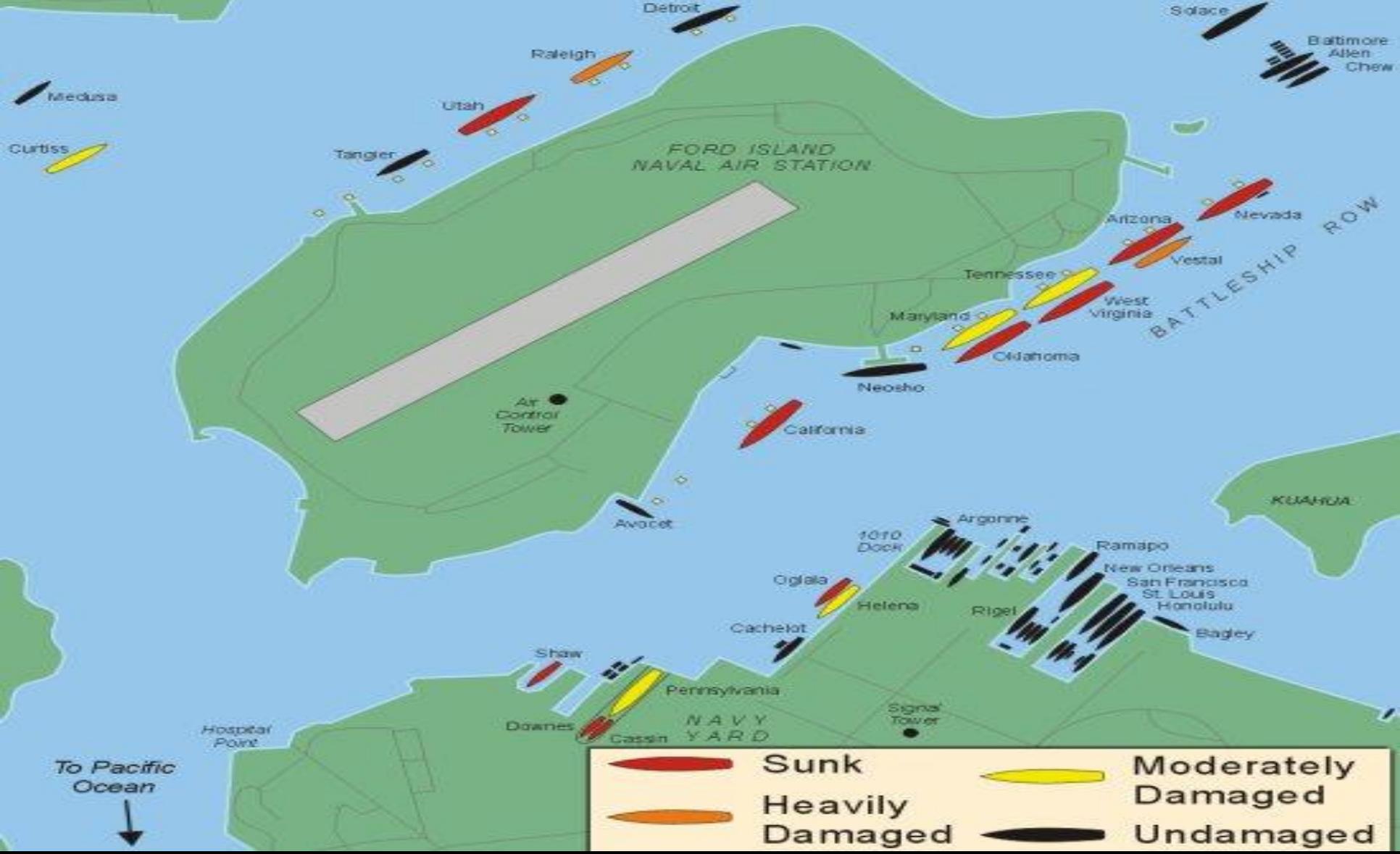
-On December 7th, 1941, Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japan.

-Japan had taken many areas, such as Hong Kong, French Indochina, the Philippines, and much of China. They were taking land in the Pacific like Hitler did in Europe.

-General Douglas MacArthur led USA troops and thousands of Filipinos to try and force Japan out of the Philippines. Due to their failure to secure the area, FDR ordered MacArthur to leave in 1942.



Arial view of Pearl Harbor today



Various areas that were damaged during the attack on Pearl Harbor.



Japan launched an aerial attack on Pearl Harbor, sunk several battle ships, and killed over 2,000 Americans to try to attempt to ensure that the USA could not stop their Pacific conquest.

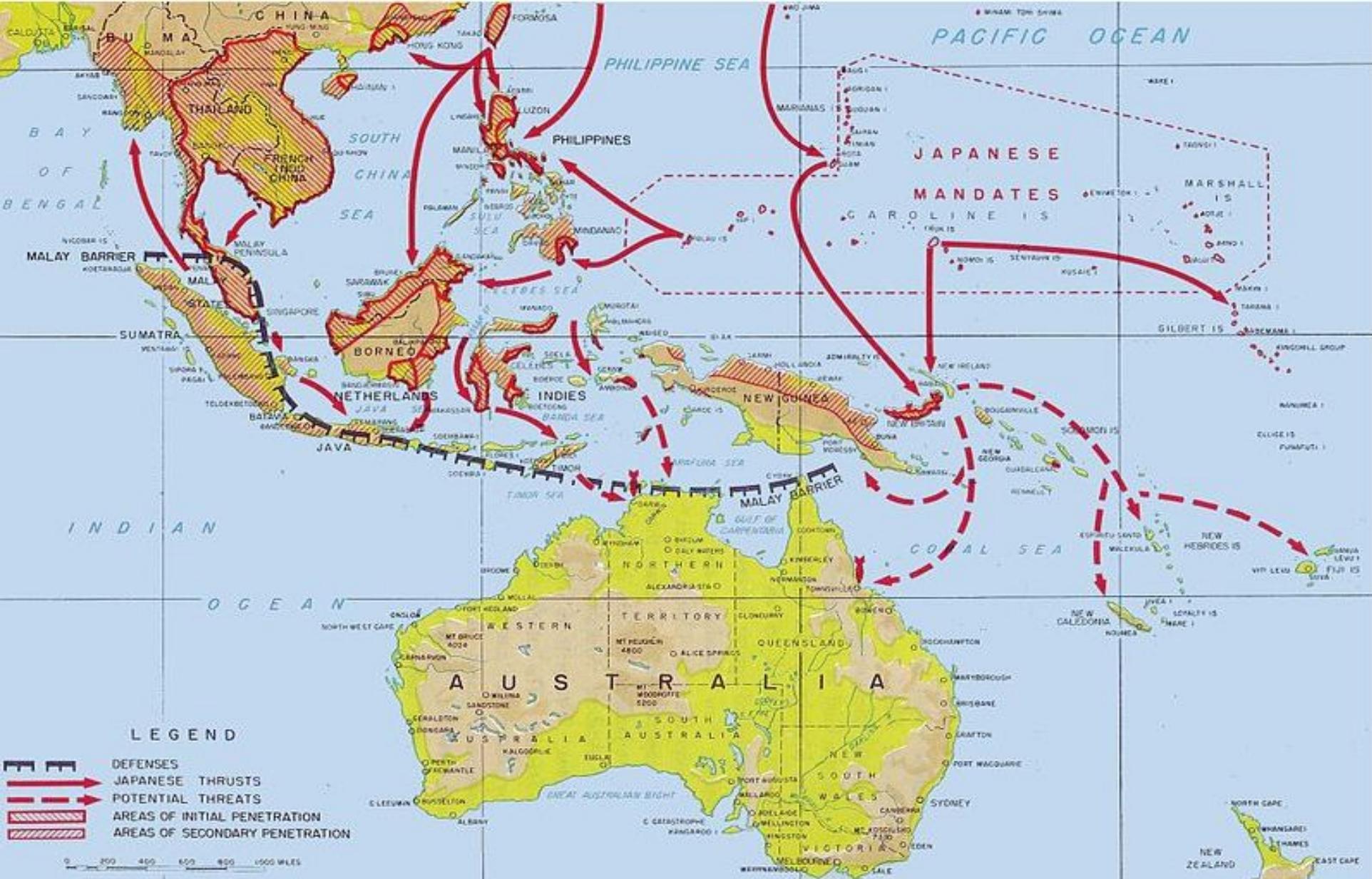


President Truman with Douglas MacArthur, the general who oversaw USA operations against Japan.



Before Pearl Harbor, the Japanese gave “peace medals” to the USA and lied about desiring peace.

General Doolittle fastened these medals to the bombs that fell on Japan in Doolittle’s raid.



At the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Allies successfully defended Australia from a Japanese takeover.

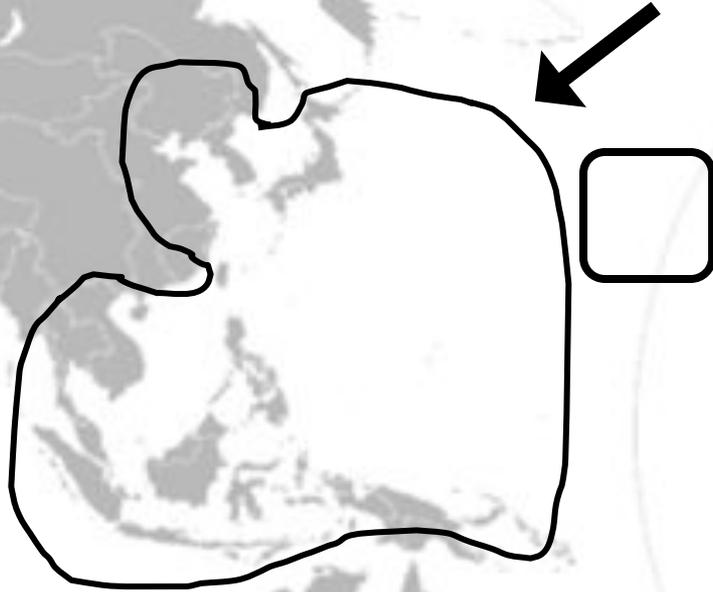
The Allies vs. Japan

- While the USA carried the greatest responsibility in fighting Japan, the USSR, Britain, and China also fought against the Japanese Empire.
- In 1945, the USSR invaded Northern China and Northern Korea. They forced the Japanese to surrender these areas. China had been fighting with Japan since they invaded their area and was also a member of the Allies.
- Britain also assisted the USA by laying mines in Japanese waters, they had battles with the Japanese in various areas, and the British Navy assisted the USA at the Battle of Okinawa.

The Battle of Midway

- At the Battle of Midway, the USA stopped Japan from taking an island near Hawaii. Now, Japan had been stopped twice from advancing and gaining more territory.
- Admiral Chester Nimitz** led the forces at Midway. This was the last time America would have to fight a defensive strategy against Japan.
- After this turning point, the Allies began “island hopping.” Now, they were on the offensive and were forcing the Japanese to retreat from their conquered areas.

Japanese Pacific control before The Battle of Midway.

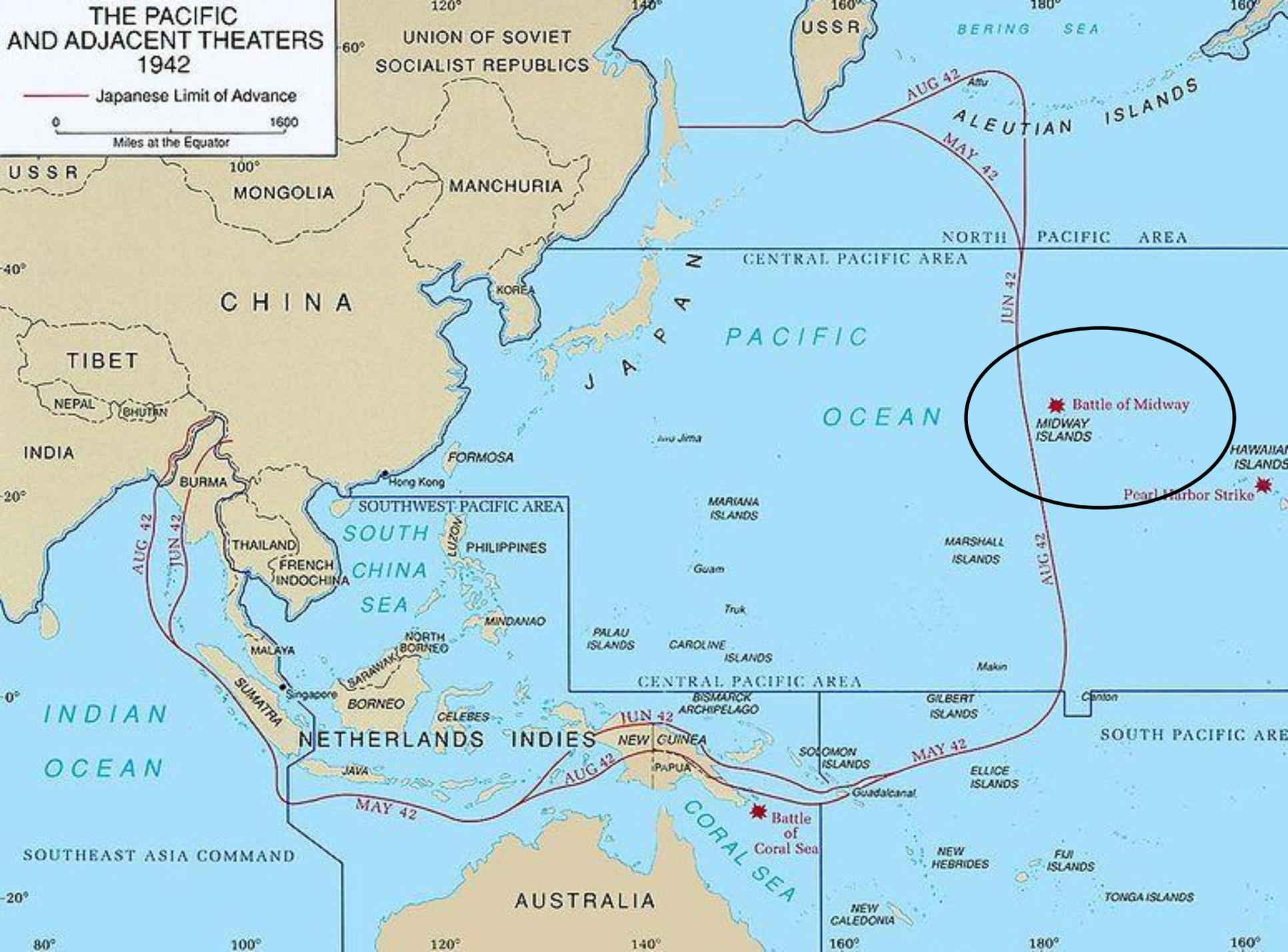


The Battle of Midway

At the Battle of Midway, the USA defended an island area near Hawaii from Japanese control.

THE PACIFIC AND ADJACENT THEATERS 1942

— Japanese Limit of Advance
0 1600
Miles at the Equator



Japan on the Defensive

- In August of 1942, the Allies, led by General MacArthur, initiated “island hopping” tactics to push the Japanese out of various areas they had conquered.
- Japan used suicide bombers called Kamikazes to attack the various ships the Allies had sent to the Pacific. After taking the Philippine Islands back, the Allies took the islands of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.
- This campaign, a victory for the Allies, still proved radically violent. It displayed that a land invasion of the mainland of Japan would cost millions of lives.

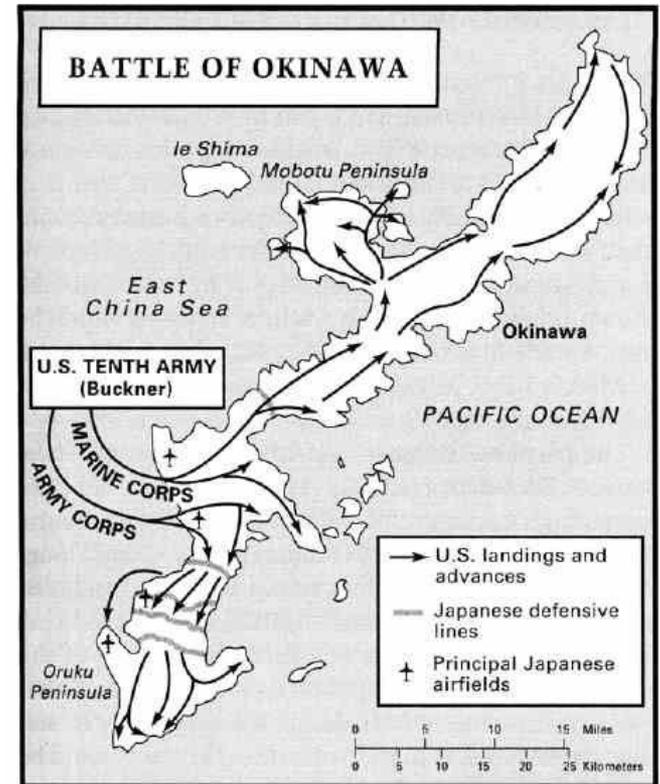
Iwo Jima



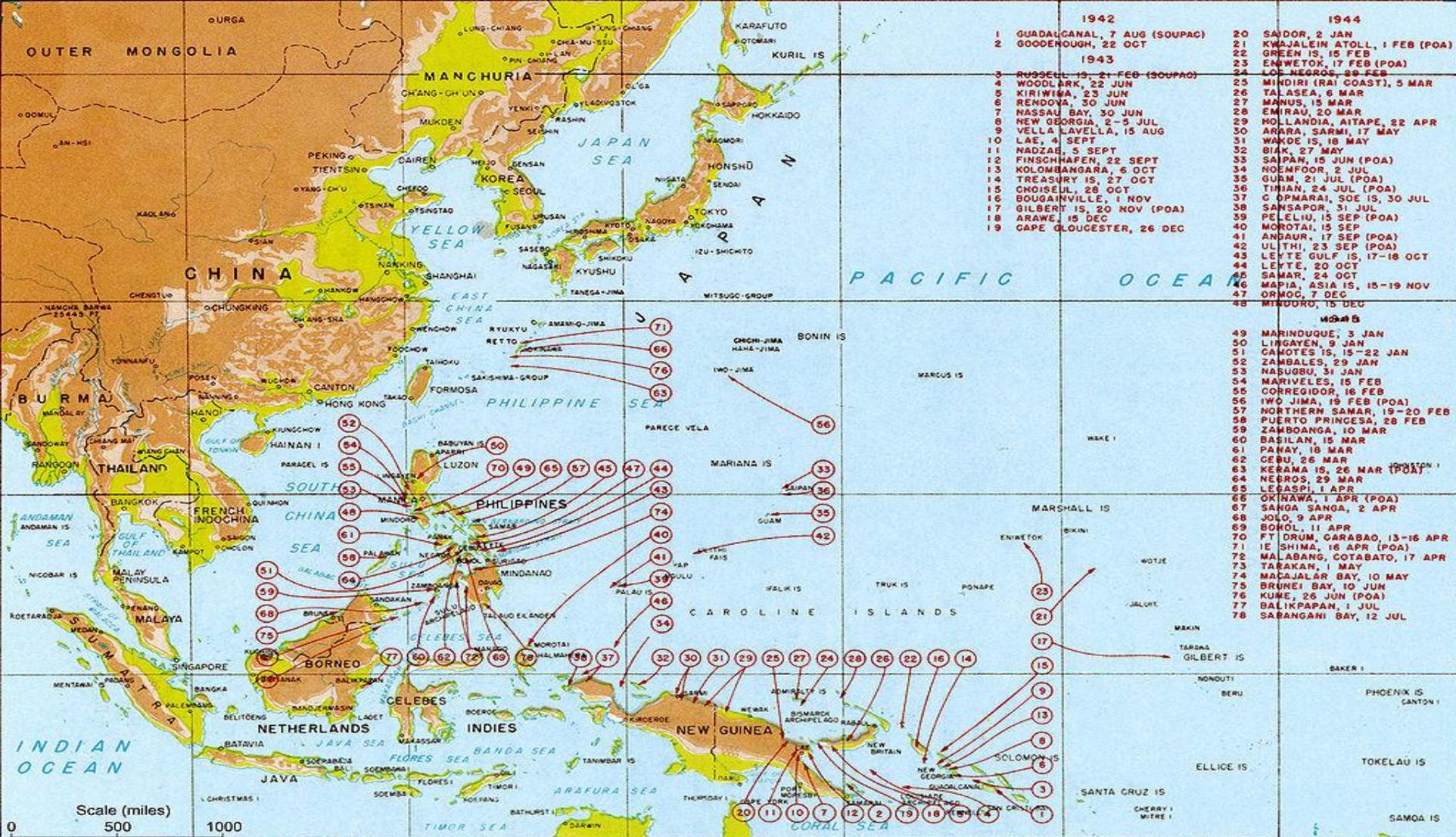
- The U.S Marines launched an amphibious attack on Iwo Jima because the U.S wanted a base close to Japan, and succeeded
- The Japanese troops changed their defense tactics and focused the fighting inland form elaborate networks of caves, tunnels, and underground installments that were hard to find and destroy

Okinawa

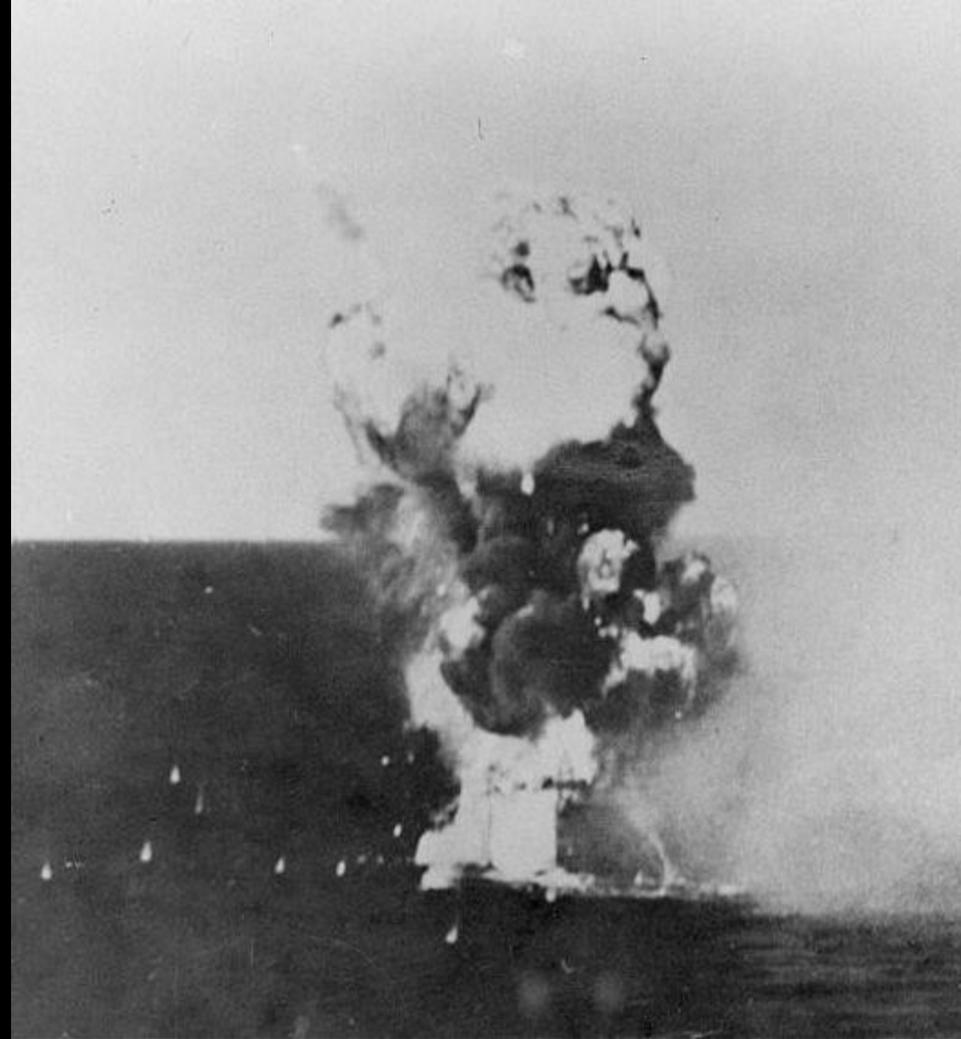
- Last and biggest battle of the Pacific Island battles
- Japanese navy and army mounted mass air attacks by planes on "suicide" missions
- Kamikaze tactics used by the Japanese created the most difficult Pacific campaign
- Both sides suffered heavy personnel and equipment losses, as well as many civilian losses



VANTAGE ART



Instead of directly invading Japan, the USA picked off the various islands and areas Japan controlled one by one. This “island hopping” tactic pushed the Japanese military back to the mainland of Japan.



**A Kamikaze Suicide Pilot
attacks the USS Columbia**



Marines raise the American Flag as they liberate Iwo Jima from Japanese Control.

Creating the Atom Bomb

-The USA created a secret mission to create the world's first nuclear bomb. **The Manhattan Project** was led by **J. Robert Oppenheimer**.

-FDR was President through most of the war. Truman did not even know about the weapon until he became president.

-Partially as a desire to avoid a costly land invasion that had the potential to kill over a million people, Truman agreed to unleash a nuclear attack on Japan.



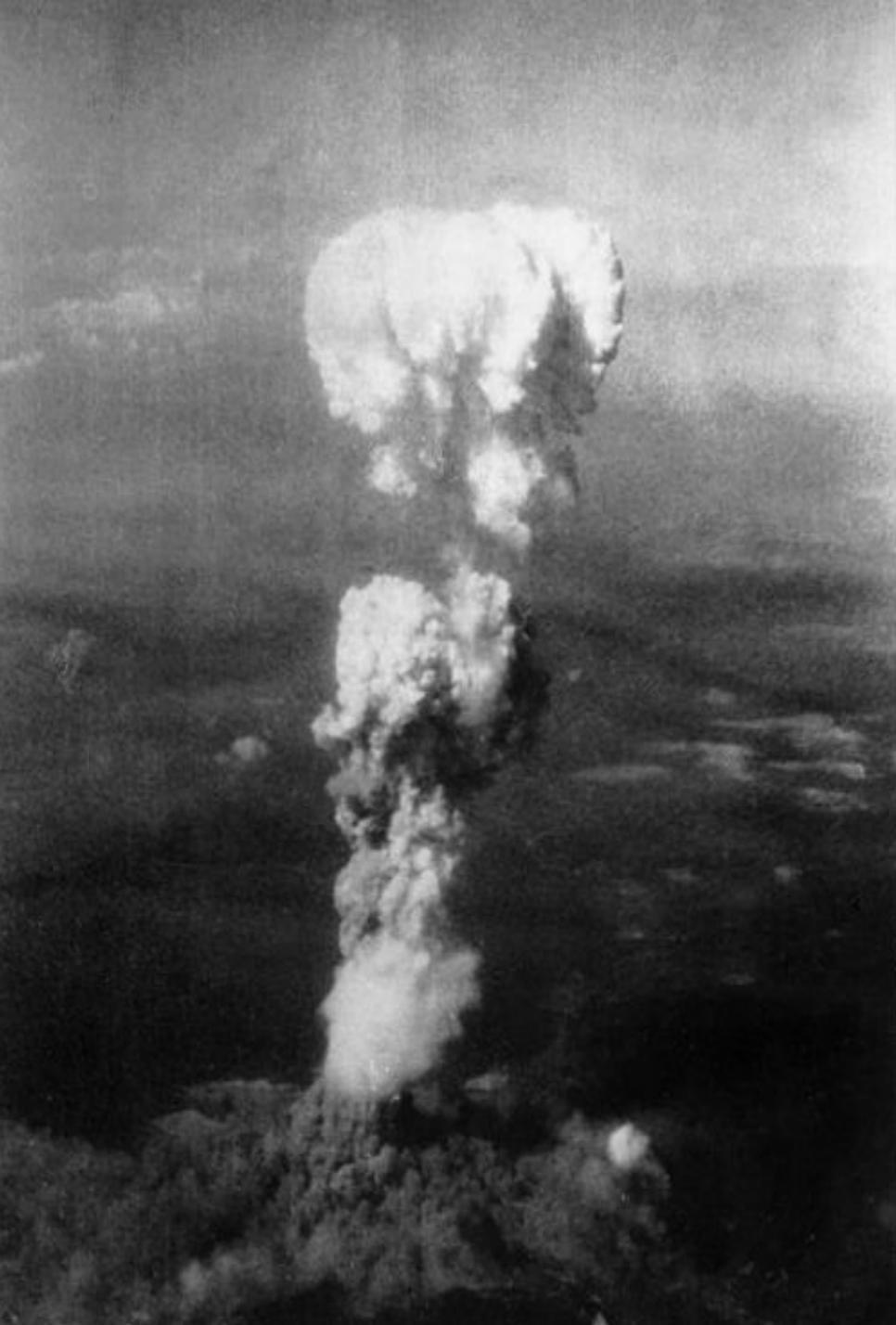
Albert Einstein, a German Jew living in the USA when Hitler took power, stayed in the USA and warned FDR that Germany was trying to pursue nuclear weapons. This led the USA to create the Manhattan Project, led by J. Robert Oppenheimer, to create the first atom bomb. It was called the “Manhattan Project” as a code name. The project took place mainly in Oakridge, Tennessee.

Unleashing the Atom Bomb

- The USA warned that Japan should surrender or face complete and utter destruction. The persistent Japanese government still refused to comply.
- On August 6, 1945 the USA launched a nuclear attack and Hiroshima was bombed. On August 9, 1945, the Japanese city of Nagasaki was bombed.
- 200,000 people died either through direct impact or leaked radiation. **Emperor Hirohito** finally surrendered.



A nuclear bomb being tested in the western United States.



**A picture of
the atom
bomb being
detonated
over
Hiroshima**

Warning:
Graphic images
of the victims of the
atom bombs dropped
on Hiroshima and
Nagasaki.





















After WW II, Nazi leaders were executed for war crimes at the Nuremberg Trials.



Before FDR died, he met with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin to discuss the political future of Europe and Japan when the war ended.

WW II Ends

- In February of 1945, at **the Yalta Conference**, FDR, Churchill, and Stalin met to discuss the “terms of surrender.” According to the agreement, Russia would control East Germany and the Western Allies would control the West Germany.
- At the **Nuremberg Trials**, Nazi leaders were prosecuted for the Holocaust and other war crimes. Several major leaders were executed.
- General MacArthur managed Japan and helped to rebuild the government. Hideki Tojo was sentenced to death. Japan transitioned their government and became a Democracy.

THE

END

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